

NOTES AND NEWS

A NEW GRASS FOR CALIFORNIA.—*Heleochloa alopecuroides* (Pill. & Mitterp.) Host. was found in Del Norte County, California, about 1 mile north of the Humboldt County line, approximately 8 miles inland and east of Highway 101, growing in scattered patches with other low herbs in moist silty sand along the strand of the Klamath River (*C. E. Etienne s.n.*, 4 Sept. 1972, CAS and Dept. of Agriculture, Sacramento). It has not been reported from California according to Munz & Keck (*A California Flora*, 1959, and its Supplement, 1968) and to Hitchcock (*Manual of the Grasses of the United States*, rev. 1950). Its presumed point of introduction is Portland, Oregon, and it has been noted, for example, in eastern Washington along the Columbia River (Raven, *Leaf. West. Bot.* 8:200, 1957), commonly along the Willamette River near Corvallis, Oregon, (Chambers & Dennis, *Madroño* 17:92, 1963), along the Rogue River near Agness, Oregon (Baker, *Madroño* 17:197, 1964). However, it was not reported by Hitchcock et al. (*Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest*, 1969).—C. E. ETIENNE, Botany Department, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco 94118.

ON THE GROWTH RATE OF A JOSHUA TREE.—The accumulated height of an unbranched Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*) was 137 cm in November 1960, 150 cm in October 1962, 183 cm in October 1965, and 246.5 cm in May 1972. A terminal inflorescence was formed early in 1972. The growth increments therefore were 13 cm in 2 years, 33 cm in 3 years and 63.5 cm in 6 years for a total of 109.5 cm in 11 years. The tree under observation is located at Rose Mine in the San Bernardino Mountains of Southern California at an elevation of approximately 6800 feet (2100 meters) above sea level. The vegetation is a woodland dominated by *Artemisia tridentata*, *Juniperus osteosperma*, *Pinus monophylla*, and *Cercocarpus ledifolius*. The arborescent character of the associated vegetation suggests a more mesic environment than is usual for Joshua trees and therefore the observed growth rate of approximately 10 cm per year may be somewhat higher than average for this species. The leaves marked in 1960, as well as many of those situated lower on the stem, were green and apparently healthy and functional in 1972. An individual leaf, therefore, functions for more than a dozen years, perhaps for 15 to 20 years.—FRANK C. VASEK, Department of Biology, University of California, Riverside 92502.

CYTISUS MONSPESSULANUS L., ESTABLISHED IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.—Previously, *Cytisus monspessulanus* has been reported as "perniciously" naturalized in California near the coast from Ventura County northward (Munz, P. A., *A California Flora*, 1959). Recently, I discovered a population of 256 living and 62 dead individuals of this species well established in oak woodland at the east end of William Hiesey County Park in the Cuyamaca Mountains, San Diego County (*Keeley 2583*, CSUSD).—JON E. KEELEY, Department of Biology, California State University, San Diego 92115.